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L. Spruell

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Patent Application of:

Toshihiro ENDO et al.

Serial No. 09/639,850

Filed: August 16, 2000

For: STENCIL PRINTER

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) Group Art Unit: 2854

) Examiner: Marvin P. Crenshaw

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) Date: October 3, 2002

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on October 3, 2002.

Jeannie Saxton

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AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action dated **August 14, 2002**, the following amendment and remarks are submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 2, 3, 6 and 7 as follows. Attached hereto is a marked-up copy of the claims as presently amended.

2. (Amended) A stencil printer as defined in Claim 8 in which the drive assembly is configured to stop in a position where the stress applied to the diaphragm of the diaphragm pump is less than 75% of the elastic limit of the diaphragm.

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